

MINUTES

COUNCIL ON RECYCLING
JULY 25, 2006
FOUNDATION ROOM
UW-SHEBOYGAN CAMPUS
ONE UNIVERSITY DRIVE
SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN

Council Members Present: Jeff Fielkow; Neil Peters-Michaud John Piotrowski; John Reindl; William Swift; Cecelia Stencil; Charlotte Zieve

Council Members Absent: None

Also attending: Brian Arnott, GlassPlus; Marty Drott, GlassPlus; Cynthia Moore, DNR; Roger Springman, DATCP; Joe Van Rossum, SHWEC.

Call To Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair John Reindl at 9:05 AM.

Introductions and Announcements: Reindl said that the legislature was out of session and would not return until January, 2007.

Reindl talked about the organic stability rule. He said any landfill expansion or new landfill must show how it will achieve organic stability. The plan must be ready by January 1, 2007. This rule completely changes the landfill assumptions. Currently, landfills are 'dry tomb' and will need care forever. The new model landfill will be inert, so it will not need perpetual care. The landfill owners have three options to achieve inert status. 1) Divert materials 2) preprocess and 3) accelerate decomposition. This rule affects existing landfills that have had recent expansions.

Minutes: Approval of the Minutes of May 22, 2006. Page 2, 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence, add 'on Recycling' after the 'Council'. Charlotte Zieve moved, Cecelia Stencil seconded. Minutes approved as amended.

Reports

DNR: Cynthia Moore, DNR, said that a new DNR publication, Wisconsin Recycling Means Business, has been printed and is also available on the web. The publication shows that recycling is an economic issue as well as an environmental one.

Moore said that the DNR has signed a Midwest policy statement on e-waste in conjunction with three other states- Illinois, Iowa and Michigan. Minnesota is expected to sign on soon. The policy takes a producer responsibility approach and contains incentives to recycle in rural areas.

Moore said that DNR is talking to stakeholders about 'recycling beyond the status quo'. The emphasis is on business and will be done directly and through trade associations.

Moore said the message is getting out on the hauler notification process. She said the department is looking at enforcement discretion and giving some relief to small RU's.

Moore said that one non-profit contract has been let for a business outreach strategy. The contract uses unspent funds from the Demonstration Grant Program.

Moore said the Demonstration Grant Program deadline is August 1, 2006.

Governor's Task Force: Jeff Fielkow said that the Governor's Task Force is meeting monthly and will finish in December. Reindl said the three committees, land use, economics and waste reduction and recycling, have been dealing with issues such as C&D, landfill operation and closure, paper, e-waste, how to account for environmental costs of different activities and who should be managing solid waste. Reindl said that other issues, such as eliminating fund transfers

and a ban on allowing universal waste into landfills, will come up later. The public will be invited to comment at meetings in September and October. Fielkow said that the web site was doing a good job of keeping everything up to date and was a good source of information.

Paper: John Piotrowski said that the adhesives task force (ATF) will meet at the Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, on August 10. At that meeting the end users will discuss their problems. Piotrowski said that most companies seemed OK with making a change. The questions appear to be whether or not the product will perform to specification and whether it will cost more. He also said a general resistance to change had to be overcome. Reindl said that the ATF had decided that they were only concerned with paper to paper applications. They will look at a single product as an example (e.g. computer labels). Piotrowski said a large number of people appeared ready to go. It is still partly the chicken and egg thing but he thinks one catalyst can change the industry. Reindl said he is surprised that no one else is pushing the issue. There is a need to get environmental groups and states like California to buy in. Piotrowski said it took the Post Office 10 years to get to environmentally benign adhesives (EBA's). He said that six or seven companies have formulations for EBA's

Electronics: Zieve said the e-waste issue is heating up. Best Buy, Staples and other stores are taking returns with a sale but it is still moving too slowly. Reindl said that there is opposition to e-waste recycling from groups like WMC, even though the landfill ban in Sen. Millers' bill only relates to individuals, since businesses are already prohibited from putting hazardous material in solid waste landfills. The bill is a chance to build infrastructure. Zieve said she would write a letter to Scott Manley at WMC about this bill being an opportunity to bring down disposal costs and benefit their members.

Neil Peters-Michaud said that the CRT rule was finally approved. Moore said that DNR would look at their rules to ensure that the state is in compliance.

Mercury in Products Reindl distributed a list of bills relating to mercury that had been introduced throughout the country. He said that mercury switches in vehicles received the most attention this session. Vaccines were second. There are fewer bills on thermometers but that may be because several states have already passed legislation in this area and few, if any, mercury thermometers are sold in the US.

Reindl said that Madison was going to host an international conference on mercury

Reindl said that the Governor's Task Force on Waste Materials Recovery and Disposal would probably address this issue.

Reindl said the recommendations of the Council on Recycling have been sent to the Governor, four state agencies (Commerce, DNR, Health and Family Services and Public Instruction) and the Senate and Assembly chairs of committees dealing with education, health and natural resources. So far, no responses have been received.

Presentation by Glass Plus: Marty Drott and Brian Arnott, Glass Plus gave a presentation on their product. They use 100% post consumer glass in their products. They are particularly excited about using their product in place of oil dry in a number of applications. It absorbs the oil but not the water and can be reused again and again. Other products include as sand blast material, as a substitute for landscape mulch, as a fire suppressant, as a reflective additive for highways, as an additive for concrete and cement, for filtration systems, as paving stones and as glass tiles. Members gave them several suggestions on contacts for their products.

Clean Sweep: Roger Springman, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), discussed clean sweeps in Wisconsin. He said the program was voluntary and supported by DATCP with funding (\$710,400) coming from the Recycling Fund. He said the program serve individuals with household hazardous waste (HHW).and very small quantity generators (VSQG). The VSQG are usually small businesses that occasionally use hazardous substances in limited quantities. The program can save VSQG's 30-40% over a private hauler. DATCP has been doing clean sweeps for 15 years. They think they have captured most of the old, stored material, such as DDT, but there is still a lot of hazardous material in basements,

garages, barns and sheds. Reindl said that even though volume has increased, typically less than 5% of the people in an area take advantage of the clean sweeps.

Springman said that they have a very good web site and they give out educational materials at their events. They also have various grants for permanent clean sweep sites, usually operated by counties.

Springman said that the agricultural volume is going down but the HHW component is rising. They are working on helping to set up more permanent sites and sending more grants to rural counties. They are also seeing more regional sites, with cities and villages assisting in county collection efforts. He said that sites that do a one-day event have the material off site by the end of the day. Permanent site shave the material off within 90 days.

Springman said that the program was looking to expand and has put in a budget request for more funding from the recycling fund.

Fielkow suggested that the Council write a letter of support to the agency secretary's. Reindl said he would write a letter from the Council.

Public Comment: None

Other Business

The next Council meeting was originally scheduled for 9:00 AM on September 26, at the DNR South Central Region offices, Gathering Waters room, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Madison. Due to scheduling conflicts, the meeting was rescheduled for 9:00 AM, Monday, September 25, in the Kegonsa room of the Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison.

Adjournment: Zieve moved and Swift seconded. The Council adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Daniel B. Fields, Department of Natural Resources.